THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C. P. THAKUR) : (a) to (c) Recognising the magnitude and complexity of the problem, the Government of India constituted the Brahmaputra Board in December, 1981 under the Brahmaputra Board Act, 1980 for planning and implementation of measures for the management of floods and bank erosion in Brahmaputra valley. The major activities of the Board are preparation of Master Plans and investigation of projects in the Brahmaputra and Barak basins.

The Board has prepared Master Plan Part I and Part II for Flood Management in Brahmaputra and Barak valleys and their tributaries. 22 no. sub Master Plans of part III dealing with tributaries of Brahmaputra and rivers of Tripura have been completed. The Master Plans include short-term and long-term measures with both structural and non-structural elements. Under the long-term measures, storage schemes on the tributaries of Brahmaputra and Barak and rivers of Tripura have been suggested. Brahmaputra Board has taken up survey and investigation work for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of thirteen (13) storage projects of which Detailed Project Reports of Tipaimukh and Pagladiya Dam Projects have been completed. Survey and investigation for preparation of Detailed Project Report of six projects on Siang and Subansiri rivers has been entrusted to National Hydro-electric Power Corporation. The Tipaimukh Dam Project has been entrusted to North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation for implementation.

The Master Plans Part I and II prepared by the Brahmaputra Board have been accepted by the Ministry of Water Resources and sent to the North-Eastern States for implementation by the State Governments from the funds allocated under the State Flood Control Sector by the Planning Commission. Besides, the Centre has been providing loan assistance since 1974 to Govt. of Assam for flood management in Brahmaputra valley. For the Ninth Plan, the Planning Commission has recently given, in principle, clearance for providing Central assistance amounting to Rs. 150 crore to the North-Eastern States for flood control. Under the long-term measures, Public Investment Board has cleared the Pagladiya Dam project to be executed by the Brahmaputra Board.

Survey on Security at Airports

*520. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Industrial Security Force as well as the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security recently conducted survey of eight airports in the country;

(b) if so, what are their findings;

(c) whether it is a fact that access to the tarmac and other areas high security airport areas was made easy because of lack of proper perimeter fencing and on account of unreliable security gadgets; and

(d) if so, what preventive measures Government have taken so far to ensure proper security at all the airports in the country, including "Separate Security Force" therefor, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 16th February, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A survey of 22 airports has been conducted jointly by Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) in order to assess the requirements for deployment of CISF in place of State Police personnel for security related functions at these airports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) After the incident of hijacking of IC-814, following measures have been taken to further strengthen security at the airports :—

(i) Deployment of CISF in place of State Police for security duties at the operational airports in a phased manner. The CISF has already taken over the security duties at Patna, Jaipur, Guwahati, Vadodara, Port Blair, Rajkot, Ranchi, Agartala, Bhopal, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad.

(ii) Frisking of passengers and hand baggage at the time of entry into sterile area has been tightened. Ladder-point secondary frisking has been introduced.

(iii) Strict control on access to the airports is being ensured by comprehensive review of Photo Identity Cards to restrict the number of pass-holders.

(iv) Deployment of Sky Marshals on flights at random basis as an added safety precaution.

(v) Raising of the perimeter wall to the prescribed height at all the operational airports.

(vi) Replacement of old X-Ray machines and installation of new colour X-Ray machines wherever necessary so as to ensure that atleast two X-Ray machines are available at every point.

(vii) Modernisation and upgradation of security related technological set up at the airports is being done in a phased manner.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Report of high powered committee appointed by the Nepalese Government on hijacking of IA plane

3807. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD :

SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Nepal Government had appointed a high-powered committee probing into security lapse which led to the hijacking of Indian plane IC-814 in December, 1999;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has examined the report; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report of the Committee appointed by the Government of Nepal has not been made public so far.

Upgradation of Kargil airport

3808. SHRI ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kargil airport is being upgraded;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when would regular civilian aircraft would fly to Kargil?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) is developing a new